taken against the staff found indulging in such malpractice. In addition, touts apprehended are prosecuted as per provisions of law.

Committee for passenger amenities at Station

1935. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway platforms and railway compartments are in a very poor state of hygiene and taps are dry both on the platforms and in the bogies, thereby causing a lot of inconvenience to the passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Railways propose to appoint a Committee to go into these problems and to suggest ways and means of improving the sanitation conditions on the Railways; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) Cleanlines and maintenance of amenities including tap water supply at stations and trains is a continuous process and is carried out regularly and any deficiency found is promptly attended to for rectification. Regular inspections are conducted at railway stations and trains to monitor and identify weak areas and take remedial measures.

(c) and (d) Besides regular checks, there is a system of periodic inspections by multi-disciplinary Service Improvement Groups of appropriate level to monitor upkeep of amenities including cleanliness and take immediate corrective action. Suitable action is taken against the staff/ agency who are found wanting in the performance of their duties for maintaining proper cleanliness at railway stations and trains. At present there is no proposal for appointment of a committee.

Incidents of robbery and terrorism in trains

†1936. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a spurt in the incidents of robbery and terrorism in the trains during the recent past;

(b) if so, whether Government would taken any action to check the incidents of robbery and to get rid of the difficulties having faced by the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.